Appendix table 7-53.
Public assessment of astrology: 1979–2001

Characteristic	1979	1981	1985	1988	1990	1992	1995	1997	1999	2001
					Percent					
All adults										
Very scientific	7	10	8	6	6	6	7	7	7	9
Sort of scientific	34	35	31	31	29	29	28	29	29	31
Not at all scientific	50	51	57	60	60	62	60	59	59	56
Do not know	9	4	4	3	5	3	5	5	5	4
Male										
Very scientific	7	9	7	5	5	6	7	7	7	9
Sort of scientific	30	29	29	25	23	25	24	27	25	27
Not at all scientific	54	58	60	67	67	67	65	63	63	60
Do not know	9	4	4	3	5	2	4	3	5	3
Female										
Very scientific	8	10	9	7	6	7	7	7	7	8
Sort of scientific	37	41	32	37	35	32	32	31	32	36
Not at all scientific	46	44	55	53	55	58	55	55	56	52
Do not know	9	5	4	3	4	3	6	7	5	4
Less than high school graduate										
Very scientific	11	13	14	11	7	12	11	11	13	14
Sort of scientific	34	37	38	35	31	33	28	37	34	35
Not at all scientific	39	40	43	50	50	49	48	42	41	45
Do not know	16	10	5	4	12	6	13	10	12	6
High school graduate										
Very scientific	7	10	8	6	6	6	8	7	7	9
Sort of scientific	37	38	29	32	32	31	30	30	30	35
Not at all scientific	50	50	60	59	60	61	59	59	60	52
Do not know	6	2	3	3	2	2	3	4	3	4
Baccalaureate and higher										
Very scientific	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	4
Sort of scientific	20	25	25	23	18	17	22	19	19	21
Not at all scientific	71	69	70	74	77	78	74	76	76	74
Do not know	7	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	2
Attentive public to science and technology[a]										
Very scientific	8	9	7	3	6	15	8	7	12	4
Sort of scientific	28	34	27	29	21	23	24	29	23	25
Not at all scientific	60	54	62	66	72	58	65	62	64	68
Do not know	4	3	4	2	1	4	3	2	1	2
					Sample size (number)					
All adults	1,635	1,631	2,005	2,041	2,033	1,004	2,006	2,000	1,882	1,574
Male	773	775	950	958	964	486	953	930	900	751
Female	862	856	1,054	1,084	1,070	533	1,053	1,070	982	823
Less than high school graduate	465	404	507	530	495	215	418	420	403	116
High school graduate	932	941	1,147	1,158	1,202	623	1,196	1,188	1,111	834
Baccalaureate and higher	238	282	349	353	336	203	392	392	368	614
Attentive public to science and technology	154	208	235	233	229	105	195	288	216	195

[a]To be classified as attentive to a given policy area, an individual must indicate that he or she is "very interested" in that issue, is "very well informed" about it, and a regular reader of a daily newspaper or relevant national magazine. Individuals who report that they are "very interested" in an issue area but do not think that they are "very well informed" about it are classified as the "interested public." All other individuals are classified as members of the "residual public" for that issue. The attentive public for science and technology combines the attentive public for new scientific discoveries and the attentive public for new inventions and technologies. Any individual who is not attentive to either of those issues but who is a member of the interested public for at least one of those issues is classified as a member of the interested public for science and technology. All other individuals are classified as members of the residual public for science and technology.

NOTES: A few respondents did not provide information about their highest level of education. Responses are to the following question: Would you say that astrology is very scientific, sort of scientific, or not at all scientific?

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics (NSF/SRS), NSF Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology, various years.

See figure 7-21 in Volume 1.